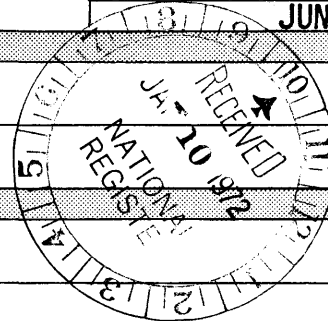


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Montana	
COUNTY: Lewis & Clark	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 2 1972



1. NAME	
COMMON:	Helena Historic District
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Last Chance Gulch

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Boundaries as marked on map			
CITY OR TOWN: Helena,			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Montana	59601	Lewis & Clark	049

3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Multiple, public and private			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Helena		STATE: Montana	CODE 30

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Lewis & Clark County Court House			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Helena		STATE: Montana	CODE 30

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Architectural Survey / State Inventory			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1968 / 1968 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Jacobson and Shope, Architects / Montana Fish & Game Dept.			
STREET AND NUMBER: LaLonde Building, Room #6 / Mitchell Bldg.			
CITY OR TOWN: Helena		STATE: Montana	CODE 59601 30

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☐ Excellent☐ Good☒ Fair☐ Deteriorated☐ Ruins☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Last Chance Gulch, south from Pioneer Park, is primarily a residential neighborhood, bounded on the east and west by steep terrain as the gulch narrows. The architecture here is small scale and indigenous, consisting of brick and frame, early stone and log construction. Some of these buildings, dating from the mining camp era of the mid 1860's, are grouped in tight clusters, while others are strung out along the gulch. Anchor points on the north are the restored Pioneer Cabin and Reeder's Alley; on the south, the Brewery Theatre, drawing crowds at its summer stock performances; and the Tatum House.

North of State Street to Broadway and Edwards, along the Gulch and the first two blocks up Broadway and State, is the commercial district of early Helena. Original frame false front construction was destroyed by fires in 1869, 1872, and again in 1874. The old timbered fire lookout stands on Tower Hill to the east as a reminder. After the 1874 fire, buildings were replaced by structures of the indigenous "Western Commercial" type.

Prominent features are masonry bearing walls, cast iron columns and glass display area at the first level, three to five bays of windows at the second level, capped off with a decorative galvanized iron cornice of Italian Renaissance design. Continuing the tradition of the false front era, they are typically small scale and house a single function, as Goodall Bros. Assay Office, the Murphy and Neal Store, and the Walker Building.

Principally and strongly Western Commercial in character, this area nevertheless contains a few good examples of the flamboyant architecture of the 1880's and 1890's. The Novelty Building and the Boston Block are a composite of architectural styles with elaborate facades and a wealth of detail. The French Renaissance - Beaux Arts Parchen Drug Building, the Colwell Building, and the recently demolished Penn Block-Bristol Hotel, are distinguished by mansard roofs and attic dormers. The Denver Block and the Sands Bros. Dry Goods Store are good specimens of rough stone faced neo-Romanesque styling.

Above Broadway along the Gulch, and its steep cross streets, a canyon-like atmosphere of multi-storied buildings prevails. Here in the heart of present day downtown Helena, much like the heart of her business district eighty and ninety years ago, stand the remaining examples of her "Fabulous Business Blocks." The growing optimism of the new state, and the wealth from her mines, combined to produce imposing commercial buildings, most of which display the influence of the then popular Richardsonian Romanesque. Typical features include massive masonry work on the ground floor and scaled down progressively on upper floors, rough dressed stone columns and carved capitals, decorative stone frieze and corbelled cornice, and particularly heavy round arched openings.

Clock towers, another distinguishing feature which originally dominated some of these blocks, for example the Securities Building, were lost after the 1935 earthquake.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 2	1972

(Number all entries)

7. Description (continued)

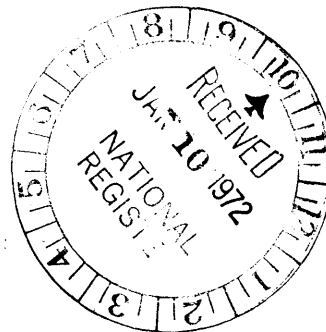
The Power Block, the Atlas Block, Wheat Building (Merchants National Bank Building) and the Diamond Block remain in unaltered condition.

Farther north, the buildings are of comparatively less interest. One exception is the Odd Fellows Hall-Templeton Hotel building, originally used as a general merchandise and hardware store and office in the late 1860's. Its cast iron front is similar to buildings done by James Bogardus in New York City in the 1850's.

North and west of downtown on gently sloping Mount Helena, is an established residential neighborhood of tree-shaded streets, stone retaining walls, and many homes of 1880's and 1890's vintage. Among modest brick cottages and frame dwellings are the mansions of the men who built Helena - men like T.C. Power, B.H. Tatum, D.A.G. Floweree and S.T. Hauser, to mention a few. The architecture of these mansions is individual and varied; in general, most are elaborate with turrets and curving verandas, carved woodwork and ornamental wrought iron fences. The majority are still maintained as private residences and are in excellent condition.

Although there is less feeling of a distinct residential neighborhood, the east side also boasts its quota of mansions including the Dahler and Governor Toole homes, together with the W.A. Chessman residence (the old Governor's Mansion) and the Child and Chessman flats. The Richardsonian Romanesque Lewis and Clark County Court House, and the architecturally austere U.S. Assay Office, in 1875 the seat of the principal federal government function in Helena, are located along Broadway.

Each of the above areas has individual characteristics, but as their architecture spans the less than thirty years of Helena's mining prosperity, there is distinct unity in their general character of flamboyant and unbounded enthusiasm. In this respect, Helena is exceptional among western cities.



End of 7 - Description

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Montana	
COUNTY Lewis & Clark	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 2 1972

(Number all entries)

7. Supplement to Description



DETAILS ON MANY OF THE SIGNIFICANT HELENA BUILDINGS

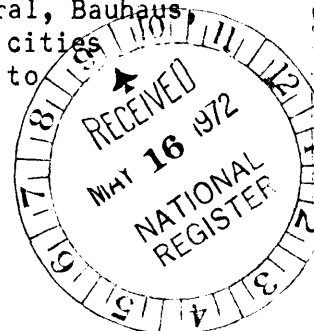
from a survey by Jacobson & Shope, Architects - Helena

The discovery of gold in Last Chance Gulch in 1864 touched off a building boom in the gulch that resulted in a street of log and frame buildings, much the same as those one can see falling apart in the various ghost towns around here that have long since been abandoned. Helena would look like that today if the seat of our state government had not been moved here from Virginia City in the early 70's. Several large fires destroyed many of the early frame mining camp buildings and these were rebuilt of more permanent masonry wall construction. Some of these buildings are still standing between Edwards and Wall Streets on Last Chance Gulch. They are mostly a collection of brick and stone fronts with standard sheet metal cornices that appear to have been stock items from fabricators' catalogues.

In 1883, the time of the building of the Northern Pacific Railroad, Helena was still a rather crude town but by then well established in a magnificent setting. Gold and silver hardrock mining had largely replaced the older placer methods. This combined with the new possibilities of transport and distributing along with the likelihood of becoming a new state, seems to have resulted in a feeling of boundless optimism. The leaders in Helena were ready to hire architects expressing this enthusiasm in a new and flamboyant architecture. No less than eighteen architectural firms established themselves here or were called in from St. Louis, Minneapolis, Chicago and New York to design the new buildings. Fortunately this building boom coincided with the development of the first indigenous architecture in the United States. This was largely due to the work of a Boston architect, Henry Hobson Richardson, who, more than anyone else, adopted the old Romanesque forms to the building techniques of the last half of the nineteenth century. This evolved into the Chicago School which was dominated by men like Louis Sullivan and Charles McKim. Frank Lloyd Wright was a disciple of these architects.

Helena architects evidently were well acquainted with the work of Richardson and the Chicago School because it shows up repeatedly on the facades of their buildings. A few that exhibit this characteristic include the Securities Building, the Court House, the Power Block, the Atlas Block, the Wheat Building and the Pittsburgh Block. At the same time the City of Chicago experienced a great building boom that coincided with the development of the Central and Northern States. The same architecture that we see today in Helena was to be found in Chicago at the time on a much larger and grander scale, but most of that has since been demolished and replaced with newer and higher buildings.

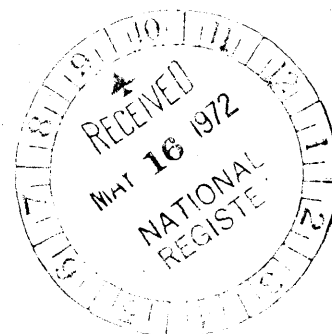
The panic of 1893 and the Chicago World's Fair, the same year, were events that had much to do with the course of architecture and building. The panic which shut down the silver mines and closed the banks practically ruined many of the fortunes in Helena and brought business building to a standstill. In Chicago, the World's Fair initiated a return to the neoclassical architecture using detail and form from the time of the Renaissance. Very little of the neoclassical architecture exists in Helena because the silver crisis practically stopped all building in Helena for twenty or thirty years and Last Chance Gulch remained virtually unchanged until today. Normally, one does not like to see a business district of a city remain like this while other cities grow and prosper. However, we do find that the prosperous cities have gone through the neoclassical, federal, Bauhaus and now a new period, that some people call the new brutalism, and these cities have now developed an likeness that tends to tire the visitor and seems to



represent the troubled urban situation of our time. There is now a chance for Helena to capitalize on our past misfortune and revive the feeling of flamboyance and unbounded enthusiasm we once knew, by the restoration of our many remaining buildings of that period and the addition of new building of a compatible motif. With a booming tourist industry and an outstanding convention and visitor center we should work toward capturing this, and other new business.

It must be remembered that Helena is the history of Montana. The men who developed this state, Samuel Hauser, Colonel Broadwater, A. M. Holter, Wilbur F. Sanders, Thomas C. Power, Henry Sieben, Conrad Kohrs, Thomas Cruse, C. W. Cannon, and many others, were residents and transacted their business here. The exciting struggle to keep the Capitol in Helena, the early day political maneuvering, and the establishing of substantial fortunes are this history and the scene of these activities should be preserved and retained where at all possible.

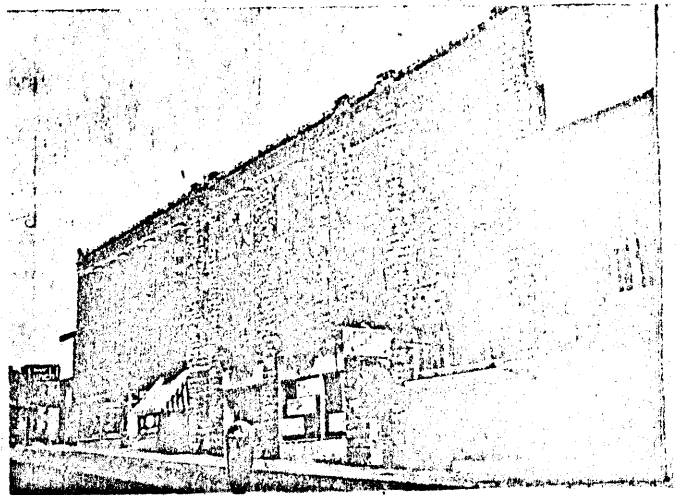
Visitors from Minneapolis, Fargo, Salt Lake City, Seattle or anywhere else are not particularly interested in another city that looks similar to what they see at home every day. We will be able to show them something that is different, part old, part new, but all interesting, alive and useful. This is not the easiest and cheapest way but the rewards to our community will be proportionately greater.



ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

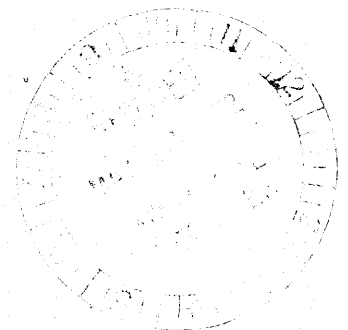
Street No.	40-52 West 6th Avenue
Original Owner	Power & Sullivan, Maginnis
Original Use	Apartments & Phelps
Present Owner	T. C. Tobin
Present Use	None
Wall Construction	Stone and Brick
No. of Stories	3

Name	Diamond Block
Date or Period	1889
Style	Not identifiable
Architect	Shaffer & Stranahan
Builder	

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

This building is the first real departure from the more formal architecture of the Richardsonian era and the Chicago School. The unequal spacing of the bays, the arrangement of entrance pilasters, the small balconies, the copper faced bay windows, the three centered arches and the careful handling of the stone cornice and stone grillwork at the principal entrance all show some originality of composition. Louis Sullivan may have coined the phrase that "form follows function" and here the principal entrance to this triangle shaped plan is offset to one side as the floor space requires. The secondary entrance is smaller as fits its importance and located at its proper place on the triangle. The widest window bay which does not match the others, is at the apex and was made necessary because the end rooms had to be much longer than the others because of the triangle shape.

The addition of decorative copper work and the tiny sparkling fasceted mirrors make this facade a very interesting composition in stone, glass, copper and wrought iron that certainly deserves a place on the list of buildings that show the architectural history of Helena.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	VERY POOR	Historical Value	2
	Exterior	FAIR	Architectural Value	10

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

"From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch", Wm. Campbell, Vol.1
Helena Illustrated
Montana Magazine of Western History, Winter, 1968

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON & SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

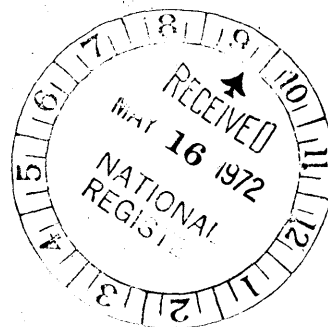
Street No. 22 So. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner F. Walker (?)
Original Use
Present Owner Mr. Lamping
Present Use Cleaning Supplies Wholesale
Wall Construction Brick
No. of Stories 2

Name Walker Building
Date or Period 1883
Style Western Commercial, circa
Architect 1880
Builder

Notable Features, Historic Significance,
and Description

The front of the Walker building has large glass display windows between cast iron columns on the first floor. These columns support an exposed steel lintel beam which in turn supports the brick facade of the second floor. Just above the display windows are smaller stained glass, leaded windows typical of the period. These windows are nicely done and are complete at present. The second floor face is of brick entirely with four bays of windows surmounted by segmental brick arches. The cornice is of corbelled brick and shows signs of deterioration.

Refer to building No. 20-41 for further description of this type of building. It is complete as originally constructed, at present.



Present Physical Condition: Interior
Exterior GOOD

Historical Value
Architectural Value

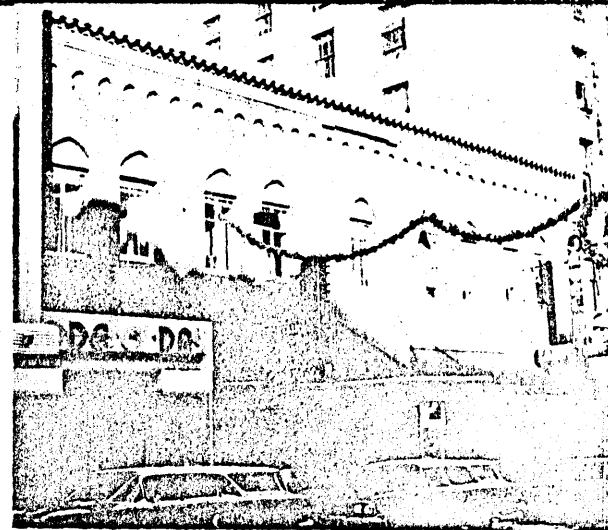
1
8

Published Sources, Records, Etc.
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No.	50 No. Main
Original Owner	
Original Use	Office and small shops
Present Owner	Tobin Family
Present Use	Office and small shops
Wall Construction	Reinforced concrete and brick
No. of Stories	2

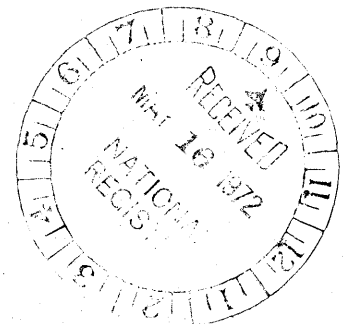
Name	Gold Block
Date or Period	1929
Style	California Mission
Architect	
Builder	



Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

No particular historical or architectural significance. Building is in good condition and exterior architectural treatment is such that it represents the time in which it was built.

Architects often use forms that are not particularly indigenous to the country such as the Spanish Mission influence during the 1920's. This is another building that does not clash with the older neighbors. The earthy colors and gentle forms tend to keep it compatible even though it is different.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	GOOD
	Exterior	GOOD

Historical Value	
Architectural Value	5

Published Sources, Records, Etc.
Lewis & Clark County Assessor
Sanborn Map Company

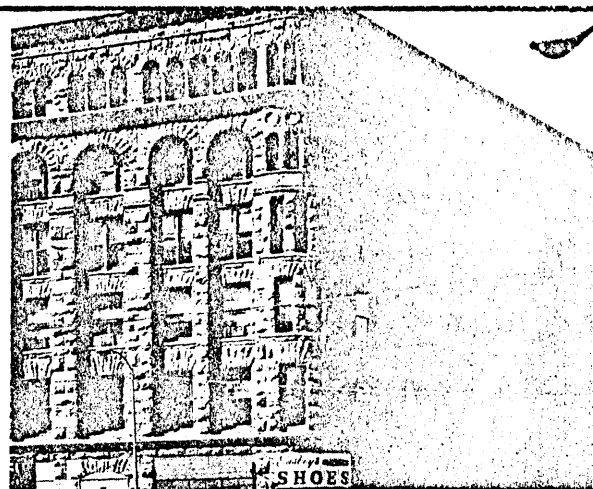
1880's

Building No. 30-1.1

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 58,60,62 No. Last Chance
Original Owner T. C. Power & H. M. Keefe
Original Use Offices and Small Shops
Present Owner Power Family
Present Use Offices and Small Shops
Wall Construction Stone
No. of Stories 6

Name Power Block
Date or Period 1889
Style Richardson Romanesque
Architect Shaffer & Read
Builder



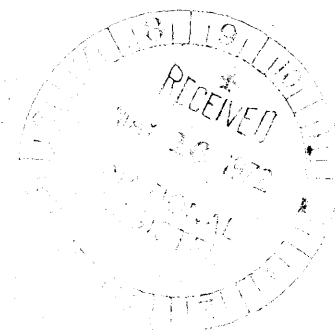
Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

An old landmark in Helena. The best example of the rugged Romanesque type of architecture popularized by H. H. Richardson. Other examples of this exist in Chicago in the Marshall Field Store and in Hartford Connecticut in the Cheney Block. The Auditorium in Chicago by Adler and Sullivan is also of this basic design.

F. E. Read is probably the real designer of this building, as Shaffer was more of a practical builder. Some of the features often used by Richardson are the battered base of heavy stone, and the scaling down of the masonry proportions on the upper floors. More than any other building this tends to establish the character of the Last Chance Gulch.

The exterior is of heavy timber, probably the first in Helena. This type of mill construction is still valid today.

In 1893, the State Senate met in this building.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	GOOD	Historical Value	9
	Exterior	GOOD	Architectural Value	10

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

Montana Magazine of History - Winter, 1968

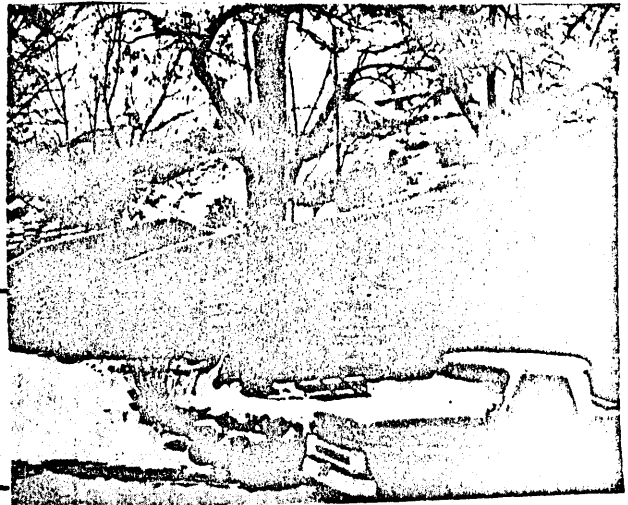
Helena Illustrated - 1890

Helena & Clark County Assessor

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEETS
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

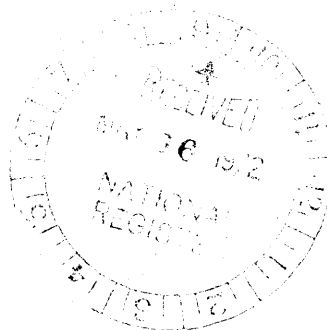
Street No. 208 So. Park Avenue
Original Owner
Original Use Residence
Present Owner LCG Preservation Society
Present Use Tourist Attraction
Wall Construction Log
Stories 1

Name Pioneer Cabin
Date or Period 1865
Style
Architect
Builder



Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

Built in the spring of 1865 of hand-hewn logs, the cabin exemplifies the typical miner's home of that era, and its quaintness is greatly enhanced by two large locust trees which shade the worn timbers from the front yard. The trees, brought across the plains in a covered wagon from Wisconsin, are the parents of all of Helena's locust trees. The cabin has been retained as a typical early-day residence with only pieces of furniture that arrived in Helena by overland trail or Missouri river freight boat.



Present Physical Condition: Interior
Exterior

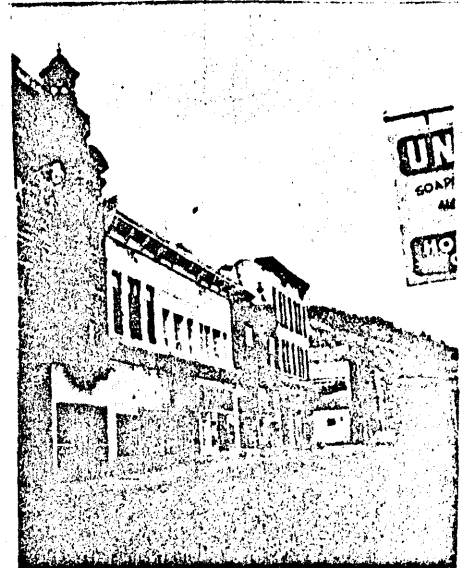
Historical Value 10
Architectural Value

Published Sources, Records, Etc.
Lewis & Clark County Assessor
Sanborn Map Co.
Helena Independent, June 1947

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

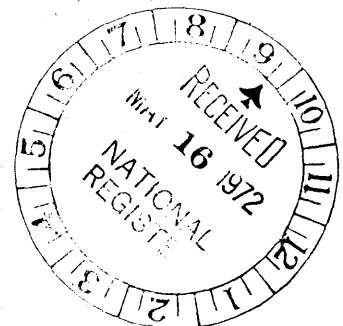
Street No. 17-19 So. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner
Original Use Gamer's Boots & Edwards
Present Owner Dorothy Baker Crockery
Present Use Rooming House
Wall Construction Brick
No. of Stories 2

Name Dorothy's
Date or Period 1880's
Style None
Architect
Builder



Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

Lower floor is unsightly. Second floor could be painted and refurbished. Has interesting cornice. The building needs further investigation to determine any historical interest.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	PROBABLY GOOD	Historical Value
	Exterior	FAIR	Architectural Value

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 440 West Main
Original Owner Tatum Family
Original Use Residence
Present Owner Walter Marshall
Present Use Vacant, Part time dorm
Wall Construction Stone
No. of Stories 2

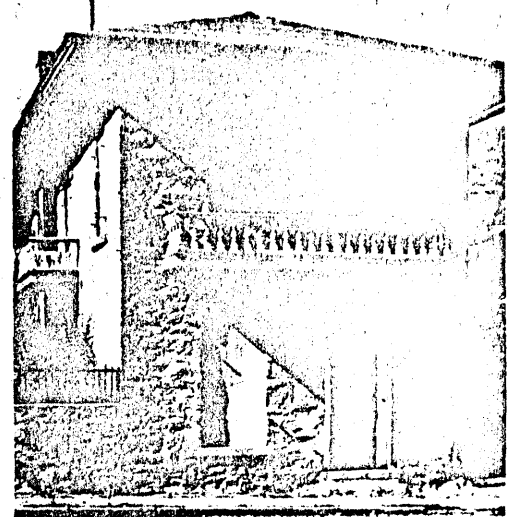
Name Tatum House
Date or Period 1870's
Style None
Architect
Builder

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

This is a house built early in the development of Helena. The early masonry technique shows a rough stone cutters work such as was characteristic of the early downtown commercial buildings. The round brick arch here is not the heavy ornamental arch used by Richardson. The character of this building is that of roughly fitted stone, wide mortar joints, plastered over to bring faces flush and sharply cut corners and jambs. The wide eave hip roof was unusual among the early builders; a feature that became a trade mark of Frank Lloyd Wright a generation later. The small balcony was hardly useful but adds immensely to the facade. This must have been a time when brick were relatively expensive because they were used only for arches and chimneys.

This house has interesting setting which is enhanced by stone retaining walls. The placement on the property line gives this something of a tropical or Mediterranean feeling.

The exact date of the construction of this house is not known and the property has had a long succession of owners. It is known however, that in 1875 the property belonged to Benjamin H. Tatem and A. J. Davis who operated the Davis and Tatem Foundry, on part of the property. Later, it was known as the Helena Iron Works. The Tatem family occupied the house in the 1870's until 1888.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	POOR	Historical Value	9
	Exterior	POOR	Architectural Value	9

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

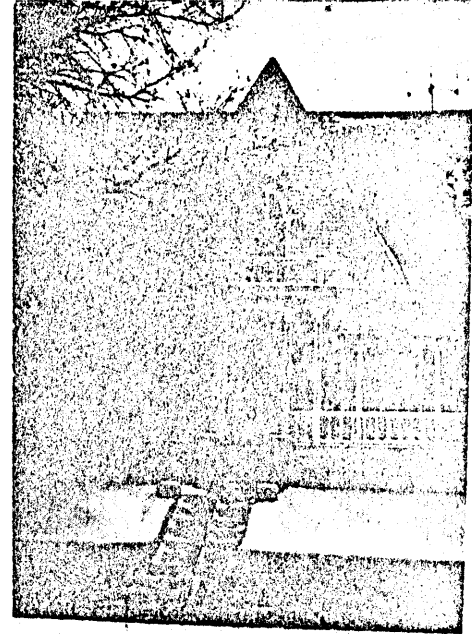
Helena Weekly Herald, January 9, 1879

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No.	303 Broadway
Original Owner	C. W. Cannon
Original Use	Residence
Present Owner	
Present Use	Residence
Wall Construction	Frame
No. of Stories	1½

Name	Cannon Residence
Date or Period	1868
Style	Mid 18th Century Frame House
Architect	
Builder	

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

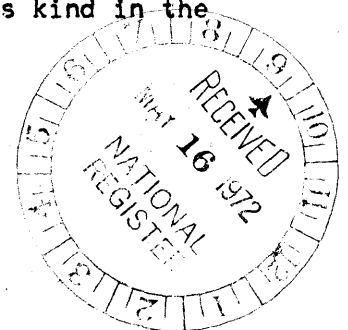


This house is notable as a house of the very early period in Helena's development. This kind of house is typical of mid 18th century American small homes so well illustrated by the recent painter Grant Wood. The gothic windows, the high pitched roof, the high narrow windows, the severely plain lap siding; the simple cornice and frieze, the double hung windows and the entrance porch with transomed door all indicate midwest America at that time. This little jewel of a house has been added to and made into a duplex but the architectural interest remains.

The Cannon family who lived here were early settlers and had much to do with the development of the territory and the State. C. W. Cannon was interested in mining, railroads, gas works, electric power, cattle and sheep ranching. His first home thus acquires historical interest and should be preserved. It is fortunate that this building has been well maintained during the past one hundred years and we are not faced with the problem of restoration or finding a use for it.

(From the Helena Weekly Herald, November 12, 1868)

"Chas W. Cannon's gothic residence, corner of Broadway and Ewing street is receiving its finishing touches and is one of the beautiful structures of its kind in the west. It will be entirely completed within the next week."



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	GOOD	Historical Value	10
	Exterior	GOOD	Architectural Value	10

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

"From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch", Vol. 1, Wm. Campbell
"Progressive Men of the State of Montana", 1901 (?)
Helena Weekly Herald, November 12, 1968, p. 7, col.1

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

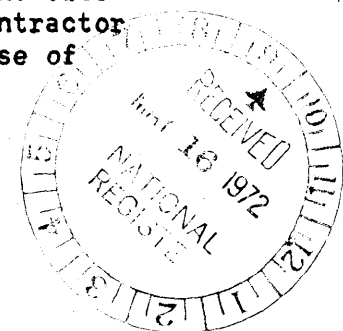
Street No. 13 & 15 So. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner Auerbach and Beveridge
Original Use Confectionery & Clothing Str.
Present Owner Lewis & Clark County
Present Use Vacant
Wall Construction Brick and Stone
No. of Stories 3

Name Novelty Building
Date or Period 1888
Style Flamboyant composite
Architect John Paulsen
Builder Paulsen, Auerbach & Beveridge

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

This building is a composite of many kinds of architecture; some sublime, some grotesque. The name "Novelty" existed at this site before this building was designed but apparently John Paulsen, architect and builder had the name in mind while at work. Paulsen reached deeply into his repertory of classic detail to achieve the result. There is the mansard roof and segmental arch roof over the balconies reminding one of the Second Empire architecture of Napoleon III. The frieze, as part of the roof cornice, is Classical Greek. The band courses of stone mixed with brick and the twin towers are Sarcenic in origin. A Renaissance balustrade and oriel windows along with Gothic bosses over the pilasters complete the composition. The Historic American Buildings Survey, has established numerous criteria for evaluating buildings and one is the uncommon-ness. This building rates high in that category.

Mr. M. L. Auerbach, one of the owners, said he intended to erect one of the "handsomest buildings, one that will be a credit to the city". Colonel Sanders, an early settler and civic leader had named the original building on the site because of the assortment of goods sold on the site. An unnamed subcontractor who was to excavate the basement area had to be discharged in the course of the work and another subcontractor hired.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	POOR	Historical Value	5
	Exterior	POOR		Architectural Value

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

Helena Daily Herald, April 18, 1888, col.3, p.5

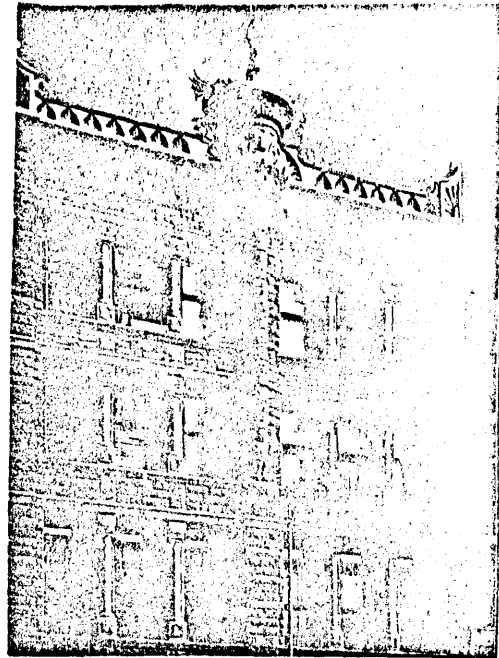
"Quarries of Last Chance Gulch", Wm. Campbell, vol. 1, p. 207-208

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 7-9 No, Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner S. J. Jones
Original Use Insurance Office Building
Present Owner K.C.A.P. Broadcaster's
Present Use Broadcast Station & Office
Wall Construction Brick and Stone
No. of Stories 4

Name Atlas Block
Date or Period 1888
Style Richardson Romanesque
Architect Shaffer & Stranahan
Builder

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description



Extremely interesting example of the architecture of that time. The single round arch is reminiscent of the detail by Richardson on the Crane Library at Quincy, Mass, built in 1883. The second, third and fourth floor column structures also resemble to some extent the detailed bases and capitals of the Crane Library.

The owner, S. J. Jones seems to have been unhappy with the finished building and particularly with the figure of Atlas. The architect was asked to rebuild the front and apparently an extra \$5,000.00 was spent for changes. Fortunately, the figure of Atlas stayed on the facade as well as the salamanders around the bowl. This bit of fantasy is a priceless piece of old Helena art, grotesque as it may be.

Present Physical Condition:	Interior	PARTLY GOOD	Historical Value	
	Exterior	FRONT GOOD	Architectural Value	10

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, Wm. Campbell, vol.1

Architecture of the 19th Century, H. R. Hitchcock

Space, Time and Architecture, S. Gideon

"Helena's Fabulous Building Blocks", Willard B. Robinson, Western Magazine of History

1880's

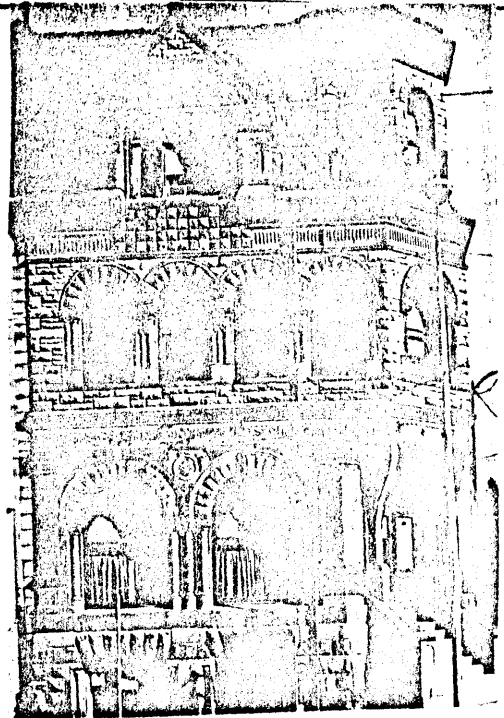
Building No. 37-1D

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No.	101 No. Main
Original Owner	First National Bank
Original Use	Bank and Office Building
Present Owner	Helena First, Inc.
Present Use	Rental Offices
Wall Construction	Brick and Stone
No. of Stories	3

Name	Securities Building
Date or Period	1886
Style	Romanesque Revival
Architect	Hodgson, Wallingford & Stem
Builder	Shaffer & Weller

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description



Best example of Romanesque Revival architecture, no doubt, influenced by the work of H. H. Richardson of Boston, who more than anyone else instituted a revival of these ancient forms. The round stone arches, the stone columns and the stone capitals along with the decorative stone frieze and cornice are the best examples of that style of architecture that we have in Helena. The dormers and the mansard roof are not Romanesque features but show the influence of French architecture during the period of Napoleon III, and the Beaux-Arts school of architecture. The tower which dominated the corner is gone but the building is still a valid expression. Architects of the 1880's were inclined to meld numerous classical styles as suited their fancy. This was a flamboyant period when architects and owners would often vie with each other to produce more striking and arresting buildings. This is a good example.

The granite stone used in the Securities Building is of local origin and the sandstone is Bayfield brown from Bayfield, Wisconsin.

The top floor of this building was once the long distance telephone exchange.

The board of Directors of the original First National Bank reads like a roster of most of the prominent citizens of Montana. They were; S. T. Hauser, A. M. Holter, Granville Stuart, E. W. Knight, T. H. Kleinschmidt, John C. Curtin, R. S. Hamilton, C. P. Higgins, A. J. Davis, Henry M. Parchen, and T. C. Power.

Present Physical Condition:	Interior	GOOD	Historical Value	10
	Exterior	GOOD - needs repair	Architectural Value	10

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

Montana Magazine of Western History, Winter 1968

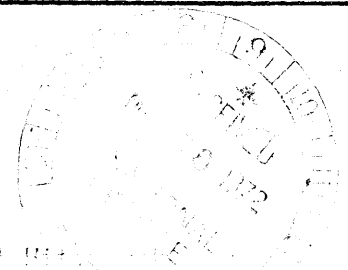
Helena Illustrated, 1890

From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, Wm. C. Campbell, vol.1

Helena Weekly Herald, June 10, 1886

Lewis & Clark County Assessor

A History of Architecture, Bannister Fletcher



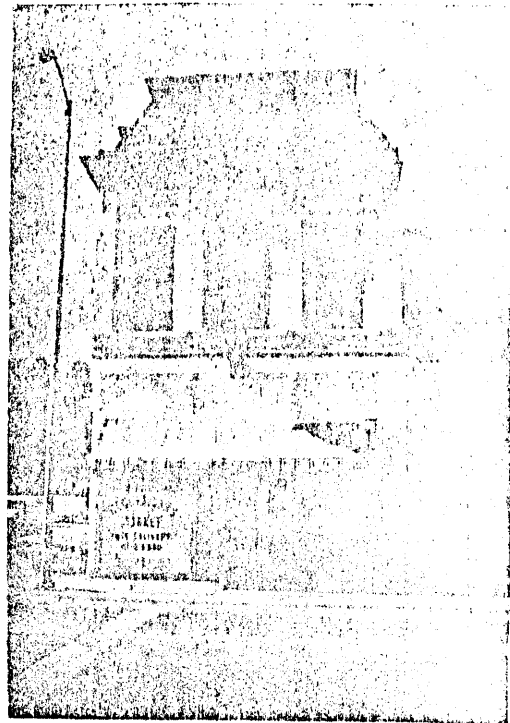
1888

Building No. 20-33

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 62 South Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner
Original Use Store and Apartments
Present Owner Robert K. Colwell
Present Use Grocery Store
Wall Construction Brick
No. of Stories 3

Name Colwell Building
Date or Period 1887
Style French Renaissance
Architect
Builder



Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

The plan of this three story brick building is a rather long rectangle. This generates a very positive three-dimensional form characteristic of the French Chateaus of the 17th century. The front elevation facing Last Chance Gulch (short side of rectangle) is done with the typical cast iron columns on the first level supporting the brick of the upper levels. Between the columns are large sheets of glass for display. The second level of the front has three bays of flat arched windows with brick decoration above. The roof is of the Mansard style, named after Louis XIV's architect for the Versailles. The roof, which makes up the third level, has a pair of dormer windows on the front. The south elevation (long side of rectangle) which faces Wall Street, is the most imposing. The first level has two round arched brick entrances and four other openings. The second level has twelve bays of windows, above each window is a renaissance pediment rendered in galvanized iron. The twelve bays of windows are repeated again in dormers on the third level.

The white painted brick of the first two levels capped off with the dark metal Mansard roof combined with the renaissance windows makes this building a very positive architectural statement.

Gold was first discovered by the Four Georgians in the alley directly behind this building.

(From Helena Daily Herald, 1888)

"... Building improvements at the corner of Main & Wall Streets leaves very little by which the original house, so many years occupied by the 1st National Bank can be recognized by old timers. The modest unpretentious one story brick is giving way to a modern 3 floor business edifice that will be an adornment to that part of the city. "Uncle Sam" is enterprising with the rest."

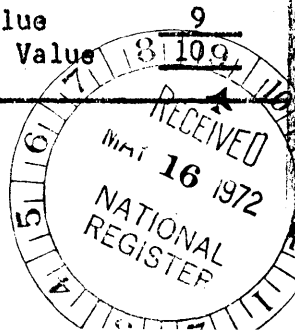
Present Physical Condition: Interior
Exterior EXCELLENT

Historical Value 9
Architectural Value 8 109

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

Lewis & Clark County Assessor

Helena Daily Herald, Aug. 14, 1888, p. 8



ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

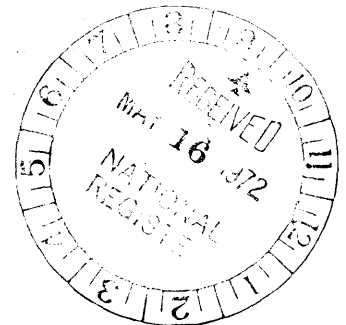
Street No. 52-48 So. Last Chance
Original Owner Gluch
Original Use Shops, 1st -Offices 2nd & 3rd
Present Owner Union Bank (for Mr. Neill)
Present Use Vacant
Wall Construction Brick and Stone
No. of Stories 3

Name (Old) Independent Record Office
Date or Period Before 1890
Style Western Commercial 1880's
Architect
Builder

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

The influence of the industrial revolution on the building trades is reflected here as in many other of Helena's buildings, in the use of cast iron columns on the first level supporting a heavy masonry facade on the upper levels. The second and third levels of the front facade are constructed of brick done in a clean manner with eight full round arched windows grouped in four bays and capped with a corbelled brick cornice.

The north 1/3 of the ground floor housed a pawn shop in 1890, owned by Barnett Hepner. His sign, which was painted on the face of a brick column can still be seen today. Nick Kessler, prominent businessman, had his office (brewery) there in 1890 also.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	POOR but sound	Historical Value	7
	Exterior	GOOD	Architectural Value	6

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

Lewis & Clark County Assessor
Polk's Directory, 1890

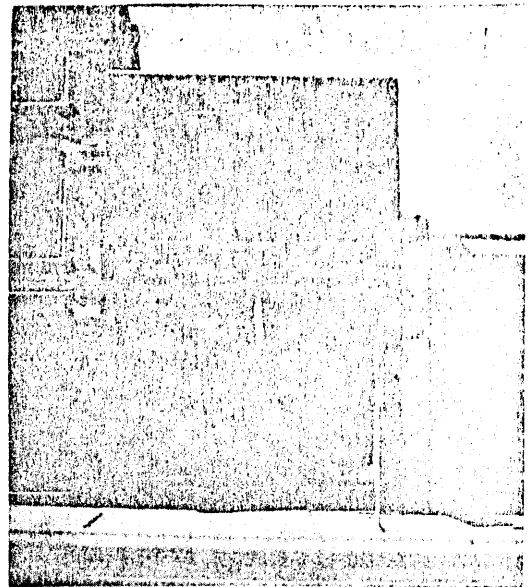
1880

Building No. 20-38

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

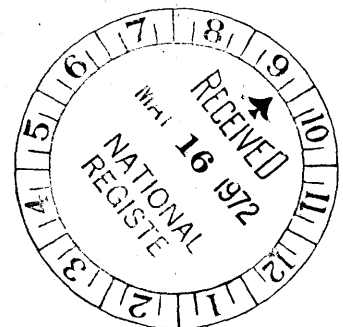
Street No. 46 So. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner August Fack
Original Use Fack Cigar Store
Present Owner Thomas Cruse Estate (?)
Present Use Assay Office
Wall Construction Brick
No. of Stories 2

Name Assay Office-Goodall Bros.
Date or Period Before 1890
Style
Architect
Builder



Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

A well maintained, small brick, building. Cast iron columns and display windows on first floor. Three bays of segmented arched windows on second floor with granite sills. Extremely simple corbelled cornice. A fair example of this period of construction. Refer to building No. 20-41 for a complete description of characteristics of this type of building.



Present Physical Conditions:	Interior		Historical Value	6
	Exterior	EXCELLENT	Architectural Value	7

Published Sources, Records, Etc.
Polk's City Directory, 1890
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

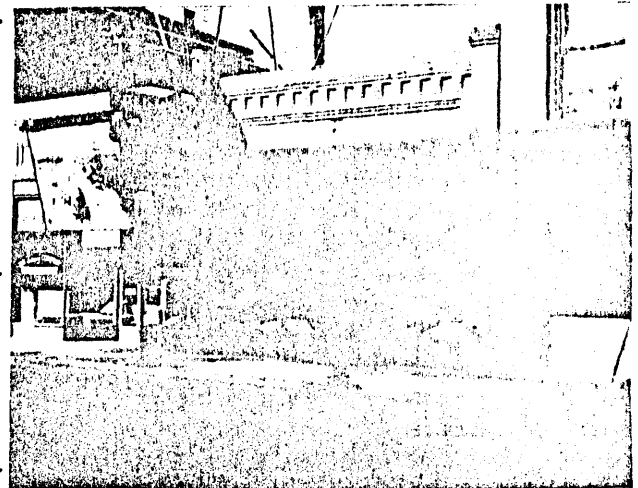
1880

Building No. 20-39

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

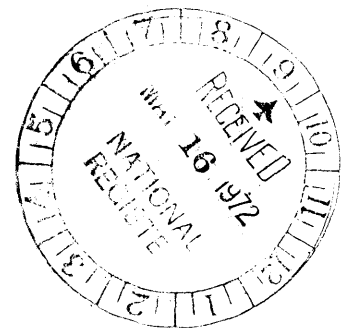
Street No. 44-42 So. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner
Original Use
Present Owner E. P. Lorz
Present Use Lorz Plumbing & Heating
Wall Construction Brick
No. of Stories One

Name Lorz Plumbing Building
Date or Period Late 1880's
Style Western Commercial - 1880's
Architect
Builder



Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

A one story brick building designed to house two retail stores. Large sheets of glass span between cast iron columns which support the brick parapet. The facade is complete and fairly well maintained.



Present Physical Condition: Interior
Exterior GOOD

Historical Value 6
Architectural Value 4

Published Sources, Records, Etc.
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

1885
1954

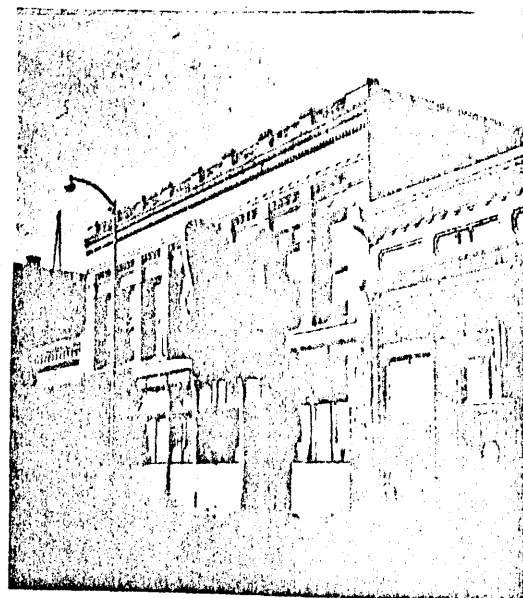
Building No. 20-41.1

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 40-38 So. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner E. M. Dunphy
Original Use
Present Owner Eagles, Helena Aerie
Present Use Lodge Hall
Wall Construction Stone & Brick
No. of Stories 2

Name Dunphy-Bently Block
Date or Period 1885
Style
Architect
Builder

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

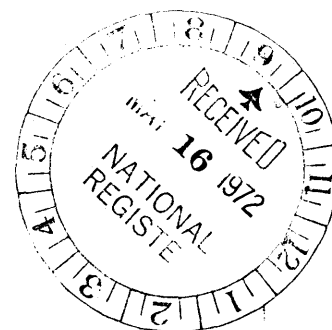


Mr. Dunphy is credited with having constructed the first two-story stone building on Main Street. It is conjecture that the original stone walls on the north, west and east were left intact when the building was renovated in 1890. This rebuilt structure is intact today.

The first floor front is composed of cast iron columns and glass as are many of its neighbors. The second floor front is of brick with eight bays of windows. Above each window is some corbelling. The cornice is of brick with simple details.

E. M. Dunphy came to Helena in 1862. In 1865 he started a mercantile business and then a saw mill in Unionville. This mill produced nearly all the lumber that was used to rebuild Helena after the fires of 1868. He later engaged in other business and mining interests throughout the state.

Helena's first bowling alley was located in the basement of the Dunphy-Bently Building in 1869.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	Historical Value	5
	Exterior	Architectural Value	6
	GOOD		

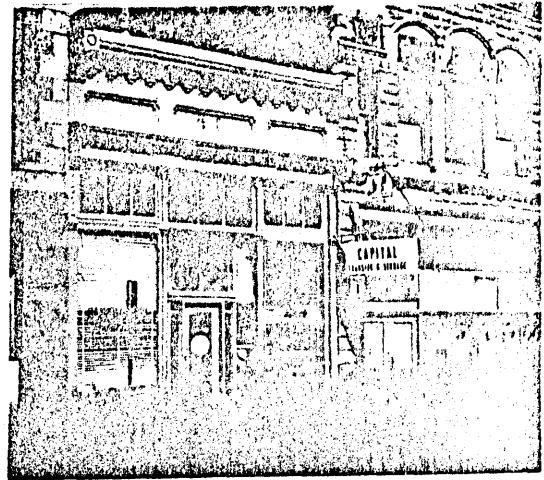
Published Sources, Records, Etc.

From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, Wm. Campbell, vol.1
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

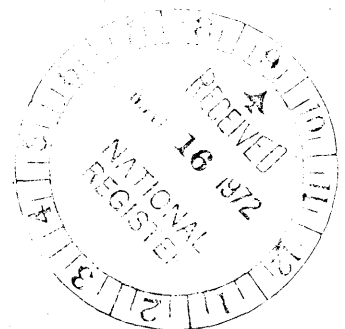
Street No.	36 So. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner	Raleigh & Clark
Original Use	Raleigh & Clark Retail
Present Owner	Capital City Storage
Present Use	Office
Wall Construction	Brick
No. of Stories	1

Name	City Transfer Office
Date or Period	1890
Style	Western Commercial
Architect	circa 1880
Builder	



Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

Very small, well proportioned, nicely detailed building. Cast iron and glass on lower facade with brick corbelling above, topped by a galvanized iron cornice. Facade is complete as originally constructed, but needs a new coat of paint.



Present Physical Condition: Interior
Exterior

Historical Value
Architectural Value

1
6

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

Lewis & Clark County Assessor

Helena, Montana - "It's Past, Present & Future", Wide & Runsey, 1891, p. 67

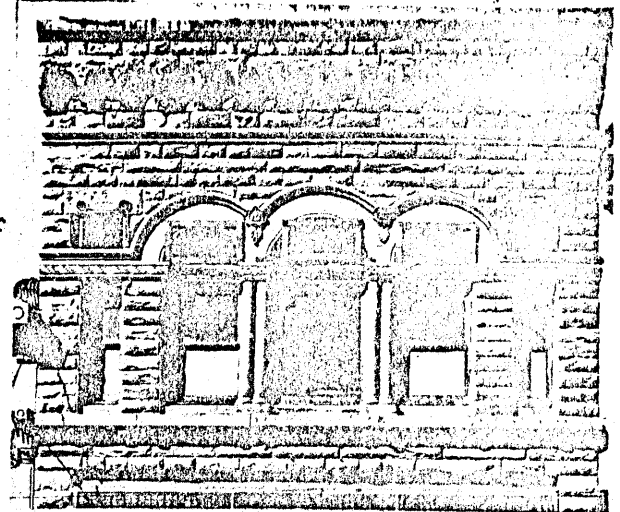
1890

Building No. 20-40.3

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 32 So. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner J. & M. Sands
Original Use Dry Goods Store
Present Owner Eagles, Helena Aerie
Present Use Storage Warehouse
Wall Construction Stone Exterior, Brick Interior
No. of Stories 2

Name Sands Bros. Dry Goods Store
Date or Period 1890
Style Romanesque
Architect Shaffer & Read (Conjecture)
Builder

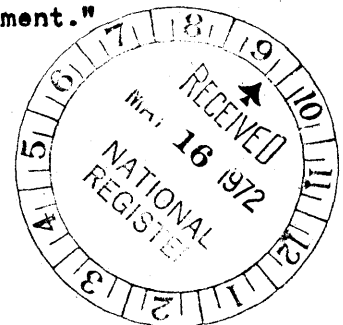


Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

The facade of this building, facing Last Chance Gulch, is of granite done in the Neo-Romanesque style, just then becoming popular through out America. Although much smaller in size, this building shows a marked resemblance to the Power Block and the Power Block Annex done by Shaffer and Read, also in 1890.

The entrance was in the center of the ground floor flanked on either side by large glass display windows. Granite piers (still existing) rise on either side of the display windows to carry the heavy granite face of the second floor. The most imposing portion of the facade is the three Romanesque arched windows on the second story. These are supported on pairs of round granite columns with capitals. The cornice, consists of fourteen granite arches corbelled approximately 18" out from the face of the building and capped with an eave of dressed granite. The overall detailing of the facade is well executed.

" their beautiful building is one of the features of Main Street. It is 30 feet front and 125 feet deep, with 2 stories and a fine basement."
(From Helena Souvenir Edition, 1891)



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	EXCELLENT	Historical Value	2
	Exterior		Architectural Value	9

(Thanks to pigeon screens)

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

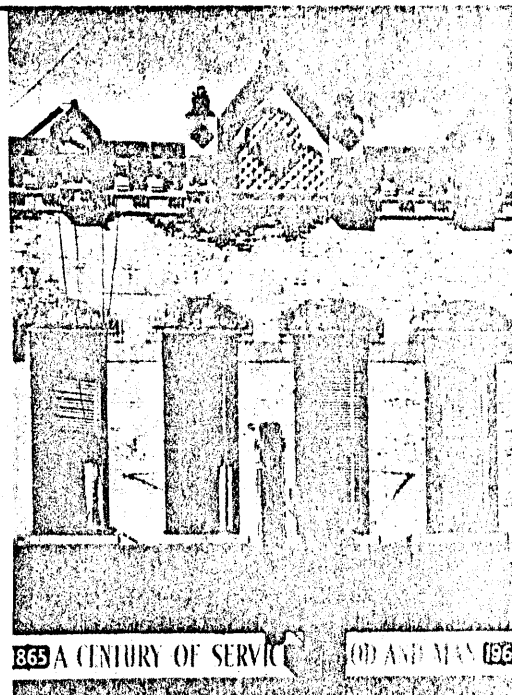
Helena Illustrated, Helena Board of Trade; pgs. 11, 58
City of Helena, 1891, Lyman, p. 67
Lewis & Clark County Assessor
Helena Daily Herald, Helena Edition, July 1907

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No.	30 So. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner	Murphy & Neal
Original Use	Store
Present Owner	Salvation Army
Present Use	Salvation Army
Wall Construction	Brick and Stone
No. of Stories	2

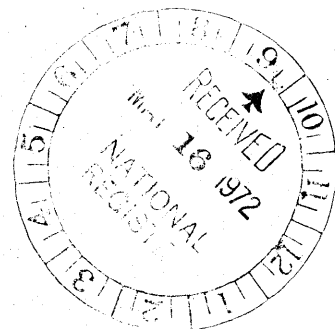
Name	Murphy & Neal Store
Date or Period	1889
Style	Western Commercial
Architect	circa, 1880
Builder	

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description



The first floor face of this building was originally all glass display windows. Cast iron columns supported the second floor. The expanse of glass has been replaced with painted concrete blocks sometime in the 1940's. This building and its neighbors (20-42, 20-43, 20-44) reflect the character of the commercial buildings of the West in the 1870's and early 1880's. It was during this period that the wood framed, false-fronted structures were replaced by one and two story buildings of stone and brick. They continue the character of their wood predecessors in that they are of but two stories in height and house only one function. The wooden Italianate cornices of the false front period are retranslated into galvanized iron. These cornices are a prominent feature as are the three-to-five bays of windows on the front of the second story.

This particular building has a finely detailed cornice in the center of which is a false gable with the date (1889). There are four bays of windows with rounded granite lintels and false granite scowbacks. A granite band cuts across the brick facade at the top of these windows.



Present Physical Conditions:	Interior	GOOD
	Exterior	

Historical Value	<u>1</u>
Architectural Value	<u>7</u>

Published Sources, Records, Etc.
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

1880

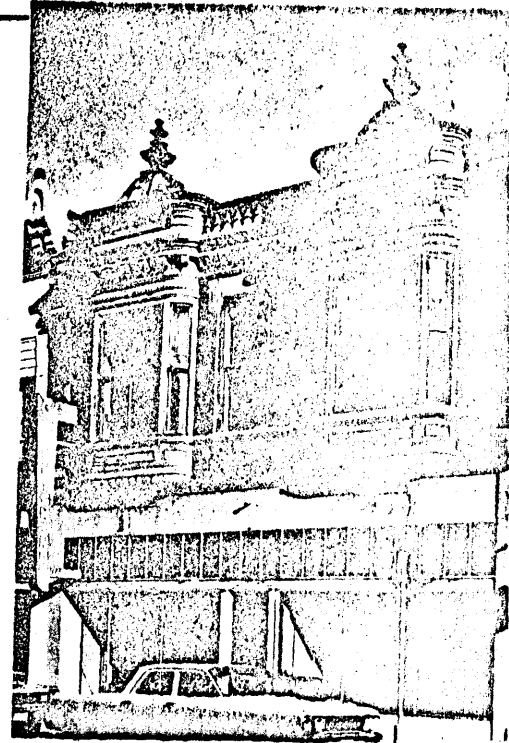
Building No. 26-8

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

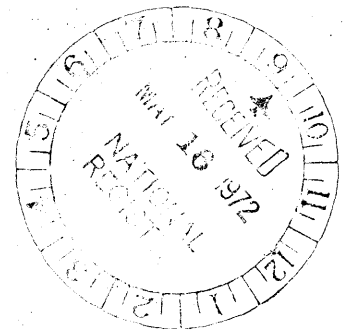
Street No. 21-25 So. Last Chance Glch.
Original Owner 23 & 25 Auerbach
Original Use Clothing Stores
Present Owner Ben McKinney
Present Use Furniture Store
Wall Construction Brick
No. of Stories 2

Name Boston Block
Date or Period 1887
Style Composite
Architect
Builder

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description



First floor construction not attractive. Upper floor and cornice is very interesting work. This is not a building that can be identified with any architectural style nor does it seem to have any value historically. The facade, however, presents something special in the way of visual impact. Bay windows are well proportioned and crowned with delightful and interesting cornice detail. Two small towers provide a well balanced terminal over each unit. A continuous baluster flanks and divides these two salient features and forms the roof parapet.



Present Physical Conditions:	Interior	POOR	Historical Value	1
	Exterior	POOR	Architectural Value	9

Published Sources, Records, Etc.
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

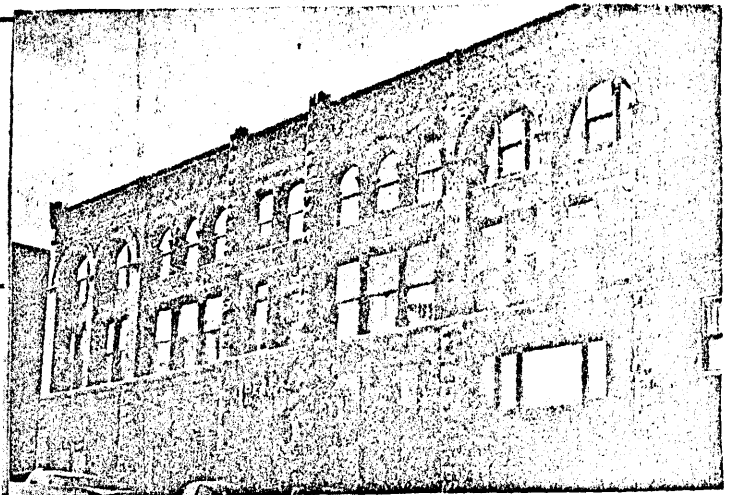
1880's

Building No. 27-1 thru 6
No. 27-6 thru 29

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 103-129 Broadway
Original Owner Peter Winnie
Original Use Apartments
Present Owner Leona Jones
Present Use * Apartments
Wall Construction Brick and Stone
No. of Stories 2

Name Denver Block
Date or Period 1890
Style Partly Romanesque
Architect Wallace Thornburgh
Builder



Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

There are 5 buildings here that exist somewhat as a unit. The only building in the group that is in good condition is the Denver Block. This building has considerable architectural character and has been maintained as a continuing business, in the midst of a group of deteriorating buildings and failing business ventures. This building of a certain period of architecture can be maintained with original facade, by constant maintenance and interior remodeling, as a profitable business, without a subsidy or grant in aid. The properties at 105 and 109 Broadway are of equal value as specimens of architecture but appear to have deteriorated beyond the point of recovery.

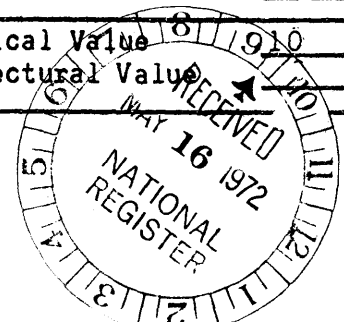
Buildings 7 through 29 are mostly dilapidated old structures. No. 16 is an old stone house sometimes erroneously referred to as the castle. This house was once a rather flamboyant place but was badly damaged by the earthquakes of 1935. Probably this is impossible to restore to a usable condition. The remainder of this block has nothing of any consequence that can be considered historically or architecturally significant except the old fire tower.

The old fire tower on Watchtower hill was a sentinel of early day settlers. Manned night and day by volunteer watchers, who at the first sight of smoke warned inhabitants of approaching disaster, the tower is still in good, though weathered condition. The first wardens sounded the alarm by striking a high triangle and later improvements provided a 2,200 pound bell. The wardens would point out the direction of the fire so that volunteers in the gulch below could form a bucket brigade. In later years wardens shouted directions through a large brass horn.

27-1	Historical Value	5
	Architectural Value	8

Present Physical Condition:	Interior	GOOD	(Blk. 27 Firetower)	Historical Value	8
	Exterior	GOOD		Architectural Value	10

Published Sources, Records, Etc.
Lewis & Clark County Assessor
Helena Record Herald, September 18, 1890

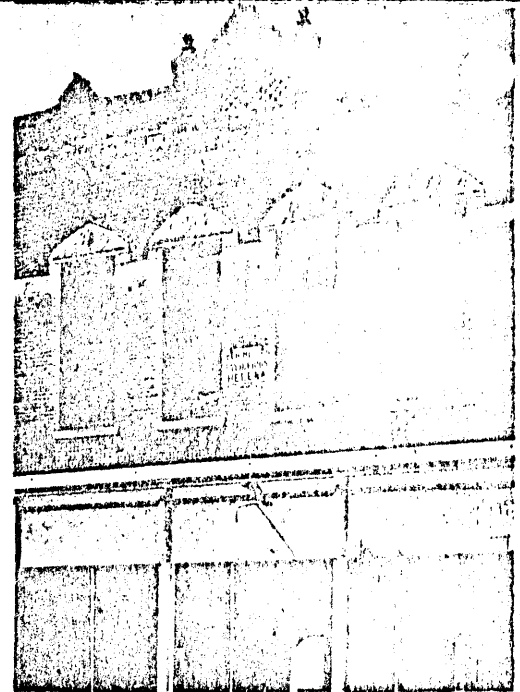


ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 24 So. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner
Original Use
Present Owner Robert & Roberta Miller
Present Use Second Hand Store
Wall Construction Brick and Stone
No. of Stories 2

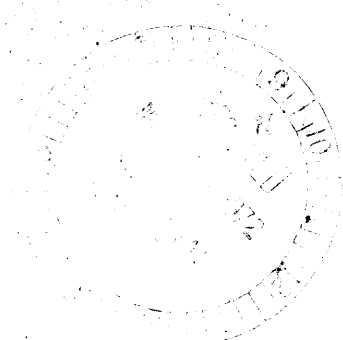
Name
Date or Period 1883
Style Western Commercial Circa
Architect 1880
Builder

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description



This building and building No. 20-41 are exactly alike from the second floor up. The first floor elevation is original with large display windows between cast iron columns. The columns are topped with an exposed steel beam which supports the brick facade of the second story. For a complete description of the second story refer to building No. 20-41.

The building is a complete example of this period of construction.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior		Historical Value	<u>1</u>
	Exterior	GOOD	Architectural Value	<u>8</u>

Published Sources, Records, Etc.
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

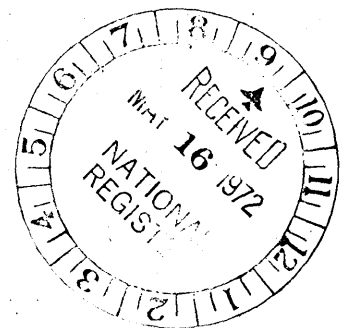
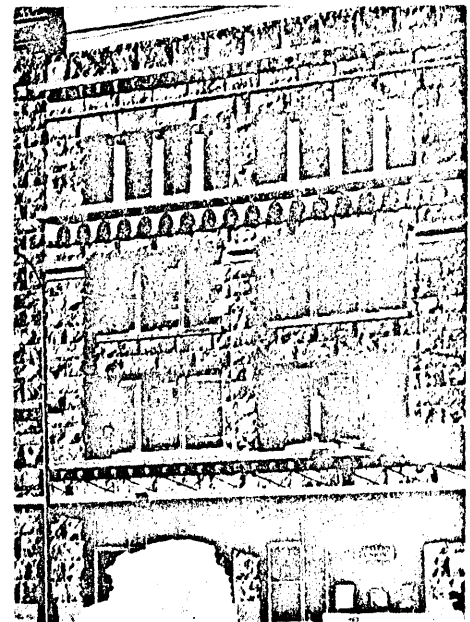
ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No.	13-15 W. Sixth Avenue
Original Owner	
Original Use	Offices and Shops
Present Owner	Tobin Family
Present Use	Offices and Shops
Wall Construction	Reinforced concrete stone
No. of Stories	4 and brick

Name	Power Block Annex
Date or Period	1914
Style	None, but matches Power Blk.
Architect	
Builder	

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

This building is unusual in that a stone front somewhat similar to the Power Building was used. Apparently the architect attempted to match the Power Block's massive masonry work even though this is actually a reinforced concrete and brick building. The stone work, however, is really more like the pre-Richardson era of Alexander Parris of Boston in the early 19th century, when plain, massive square cut elements with sharply cut openings were the order of the day.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	GOOD	Historical Value	9
	Exterior	GOOD		

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

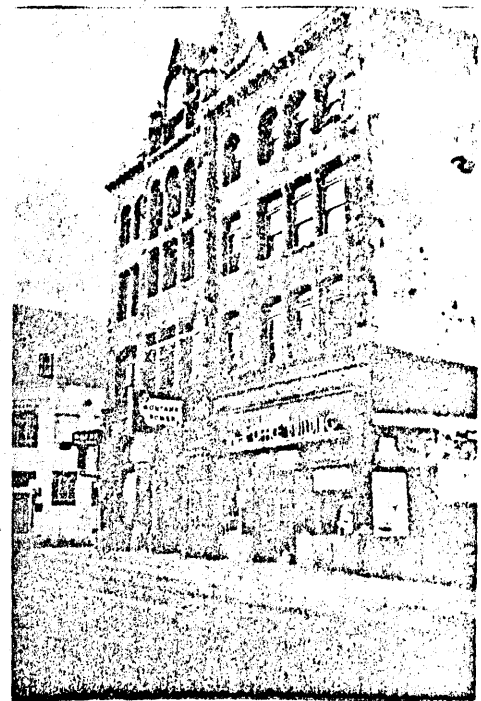
Sanborn Map Co.
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No.	2 No. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner	Merchants National Bank
Original Use	Bank Building
Present Owner	Hal Wheat
Present Use	Office Building
Wall Construction	Brick and Stone
No. of Stories	4

Name	Wheat Building
Date or Period	1890
Style	Conglomerate of eclectic
Architect	Heins & LaFarge detail
Builder	

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description



Notable collection of various bits of architectural detail. The round arches of the first and fourth floors show a definite Romanesque influence. The horizontal frieze has a Romanesque flavor. The cornice is derived from renaissance detail and this in turn is of Greek and Roman origin. This building shows very definitely the influence of the so-called "Chicago School", which produced some of the first real architecture with some characteristics that could be truly branded United States of America. The heavy stone first floor construction, the stone mullions and transom bars over the entry at the second story and the clock tower are all details of H. H. Richardson. Heins and LaFarge were from New York but at that time Richardson and the Chicago School were the primary form givers. The segmental arches on the second and third floor windows are characteristic of another period that more closely resembles the work of the French Architects of the Beaux-Arts School.

(From the Helena Daily Herald, May 30, 1889)

"The polished marble columns and the carved capitals, just raised at the entrance of the New Merchants Bank building, were attracting much attention. The marble columns are to support the granite arch."

Present Physical Condition:	Interior	FAIR	Historical Value	5
	Exterior	GOOD	Architectural Value	9

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

Helena Daily Herald, 1889

Helena Illustrated, 1890

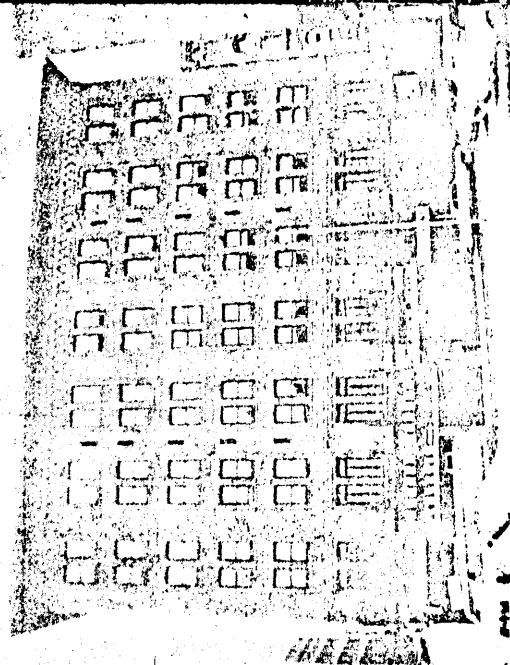
ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 15-27 No. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner Helena Hotel Co.
Original Use Hotel
Present Owner Helena Hotel Co.
Present Use Hotel
Wall Construction Reinforced Concrete
No. of Stories 7

Name Placer Hotel
Date or Period 1913
Style Not identifiable as such
Architect
Builder

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

This is of a much later period than the Richardsonian architecture of the 1880's. There is some resemblance to the later work of Louis Sullivan such as the Wainwright Building in St. Louis, which is considered an outstanding example of architecture that is not of an identified style. Decorative frieze and spandrel work is not characteristic of Sullivan, but seems to be of various classic origin like Greek, Roman and Romanesque. This is probably the best building in the Urban Renewal area and although it does not match the earlier Richardson Romanesque architecture of the 1880's and 1890's, it is compatible and does not clash or fight with its surroundings. It is hoped that any new construction will fit as well as this.



Present Physical Condition: Interior FAIR
Exterior FAIR

Historical Value
Architectural Value

9

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

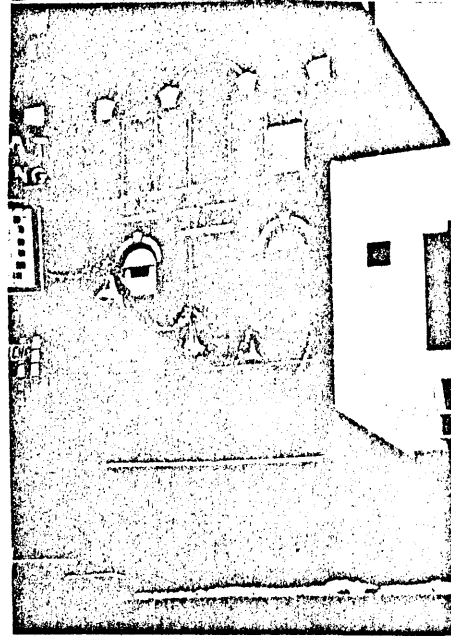
Lewis & Clark County Assessor
"Space, Time and Architecture" S. Gideon

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

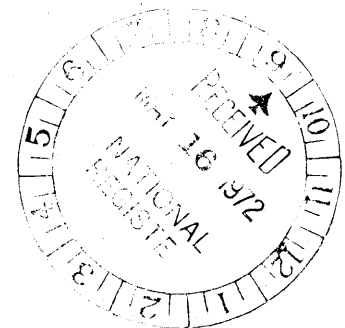
Street No.	13 No. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner	Montana Phonograph Co.
Original Use	Retail Music Co.
Present Owner	Helena Hotel Co.
Present Use	Wholesale Tobacco Co.
Wall Construction	Brick
No. of Stories	3

Name	Sheehan Building
Date or Period	1880 or early 1890's
Style	Some Richardson detail
Architect	
Builder	

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description



Typical building for retail store and offices of this period. Interesting window treatment derived from early Richardson era. This detail shows up on the Brown-Thompson Department Store built in 1870 in Hartford, Connecticut.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	FAIR
	Exterior	

Historical Value	<u>8</u>
Architectural Value	

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

Lewis & Clark County Assessor
Polk's Directory, 1890

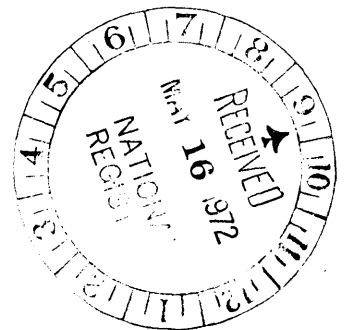
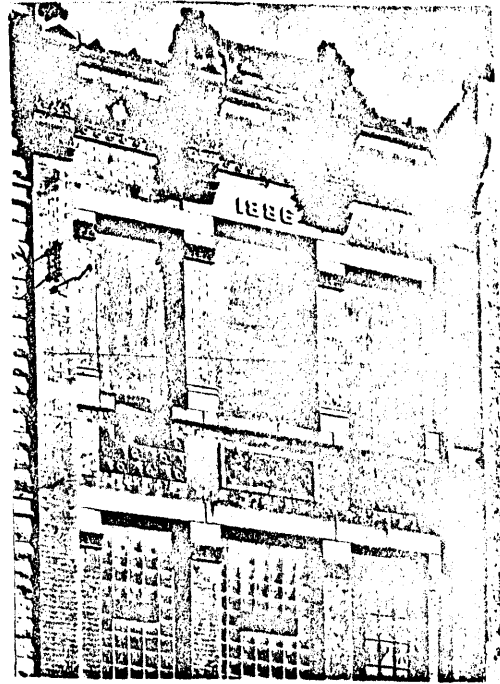
ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 5 No. Last Chance Gulch
Original Owner
Original Use Restaurant
Present Owner Veterans of Foreign Wars
Present Use Bar and Storage
Wall Construction Brick
No. of Stories 3

Name V. F. W. Building
Date or Period Prior to 1890
Style Flamboyant Western Front
Architect
Builder

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

There are some parts of this building that are interesting. Lower floor has been remodeled in an unattractive manner. Upper 2 floors of store front have some interesting architectural detail that is worth preserving. The first floor front would have to be removed and rebuilt. This is a building that has possibilities for remodeling that could fit into an overall scheme of urban renewal.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	POOR	Historical Value	_____
	Exterior	FAIR		

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

Polk's Directory, 1892
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

1885

Building No. 33-2.1
33-2.2ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 104-112 Broadway
 Original Owner Masonic Lodges
 Original Use Masonic Temple
 Present Owner State Publishing Co.
 Present Use Publishing House
 Wall Construction Brick
 No. of Stories 3

Name State Publishing Co.
 Date or Period 1885
 Style Flamboyant combination
 Architect Mathias & Heinlein
 Builder L. F. Evans

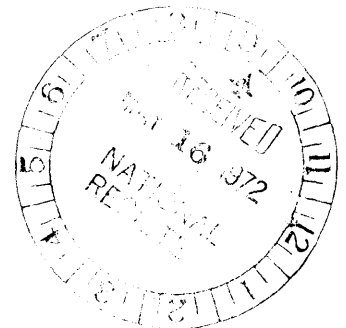
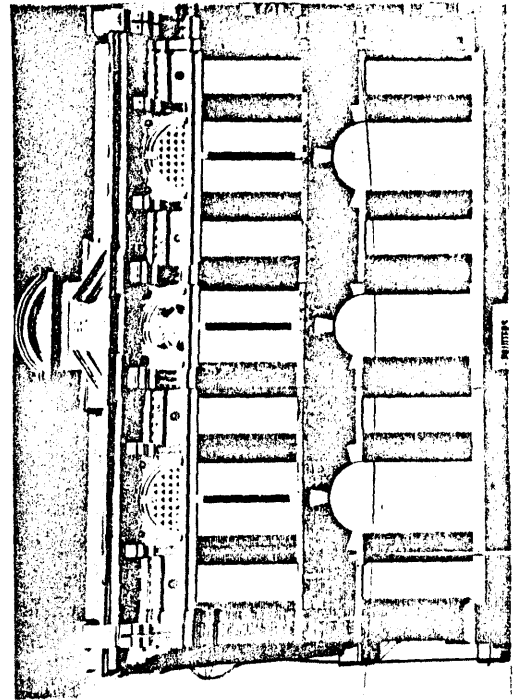
Notable Features, Historical Significance
and Description

Meeting place of Montana and Helena Masonic groups from 1886 to 1942. Site of many Shrine and Masonic ceremonial functions. Most of the early leaders in Helena were members of the Masonic lodges.

The architecture is a composite of several architectural periods. The round arches are reminiscent of the Romanesque period but not that of H. H. Richardson. The ornamental cornice over the entry is derived from Italian Renaissance. Column capitals that are part of the roof cornice are highly decorated. Some with a dual appearance, some single. Some of the charm of the building has been lost in remodeling but enough remains of the original building to make it a facade worth preserving.

The lower floor of the building housed several doctors' offices and at one time served as the Post Office.

The Architects were paid \$250.00 as the result of a competition and were awarded the work of supervising architect during construction.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	FAIR	Historical Value	9
	Exterior	FAIR	Architectural Value	9

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

"From the Quarries Of Last Chance Gulch", Wm. Campbell, vol.1
 Helena Illustrated, 1890
 Lewis & Clark County Assessor

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

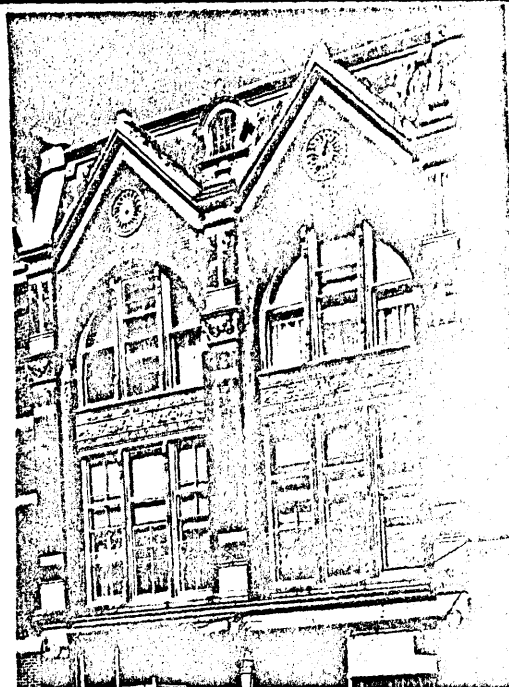
Street No. 106 Broadway
Original Owner Henry Parchen
Original Use Newspaper Office
Present Owner Sophia Marino
Present Use Grocery
Wall Construction Brick
No. of Stories 3

Name Parchen Building
Date or Period 1886
Style
Architect Shaffer & Welter
Builder Shaffer & Welter

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

One of the more charming and interesting building fronts in Helena. The mansard roof and the small round roof attic dormer along with the 2 large gables makes this form appear to be from the Second Empire of France under Napoleon III. The large brick arches are Romanesque in form but not as massive as most of Richardson's work. The carved stone capitals and spandrel ornament resemble the work of Louis Sullivan, but lack the grace of feeling exhibited by him.

Henry M. Parchen was a prominent businessman in the 1880's and 90's. He built two other business blocks, operated a retail and wholesale drug company and was a member of the Board of Directors of S. T. Hauser's First National Bank.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	FAIR	Historical Value	9
	Exterior	FAIR	Architectural Value	10

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

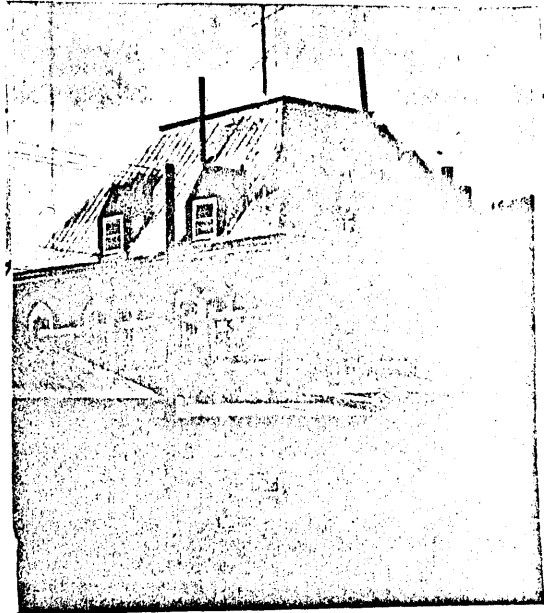
Helena Weekly Herald, May 20, 1886
"From the Quarries Of Last Chance Gulch", vol. 1
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 206 Broadway
Original Owner U. S. Government
Original Use Assay Office
Present Owner
Present Use Apartments
Wall Construction Brick
No. of Stories 2½

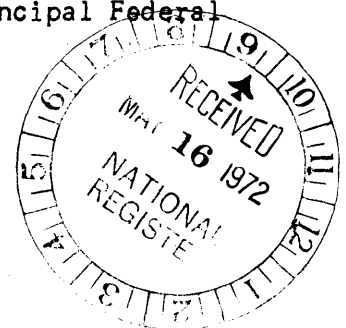
Name Assay Office
Date or Period 1875
Style No particular style
Architect James W. Hathaway
Builder

Notable Features, Historical Significance
and Description



The Assay Office is probably the first substantial building erected in Helena. At the time it was built, it was a very important building to the mining people, in and around Helena. It is interesting to note none of the influence of H. H. Richardson and the Chicago School is evident here. Most of the detail here is from the rather austere pre-civil war period in the mid-west where the influence of the greek revival did not penetrate. American architecture prior to the Richardson era had been mostly characterized by plain surfaces, windows trimmed with stone but little or no ornament. The stone belt courses at window sills and heads are a continuation of those sill and head elements.

One must conclude that the territorial history in connection with this building is more significant than its architecture. When it was built it was considered important enough for the Grand Lodge of Masons of Montana to call a special communication for the laying of the corner stone. This also happened at the building of the court house and the capitol. President Harrison's son was in charge of the office for some time. This was at the time, the principal Federal Government function in Helena.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	POOR	Historical Value	10
	Exterior	FAIR		Architectural Value

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

"From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch", Wm. Campbell, vol.1
Helena Illustrated, 1890

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 139 No. Main
Original Owner Broadwater & Ashby
Original Use Store and Offices
Present Owner Goodkind
Present Use State Nursery Retail Store
Wall Construction Brick
No. of Stories 3

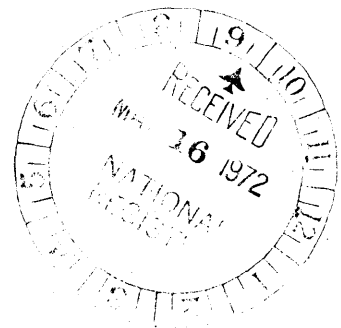
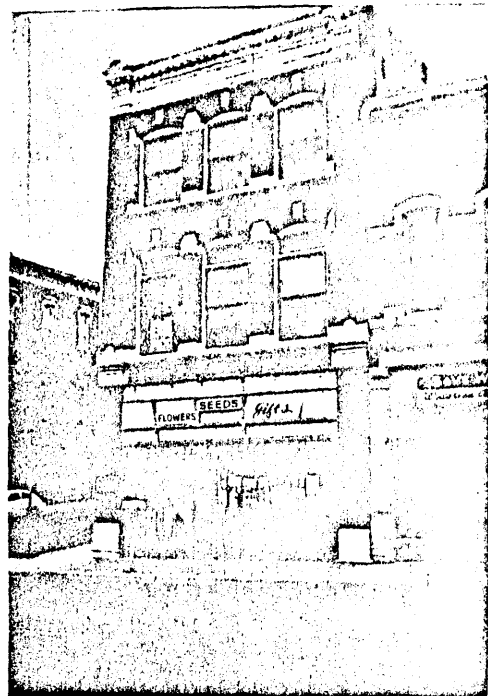
Name Goodkind Building
Date or Period 1884
Style
Architect F. D. Lee, St. Louis, Mo.
Builder Shaffer & Welter

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

"A beauty and no mistake". (Quotation from Helena Independent, 1884)

The glass front was intended to be that way, but seemed to surprise people at the time the building was erected.

Typical metal cornice. Stone keystones and skewbacks to match window sills - carved stone. Some ornamental brickwork. According to contemporary news story, the large amount of glass for display on Last Chance Gulch and 6th Street was something different about this building. The deeply recessed entry and the generous amount of glass along 6th Avenue seems to be the first building that was planned to emphasize this importance of window display. This is a trend that has continued until today. Retail stores fill hundreds of feet of window with display items and in addition everything inside the store is also on display. We do not have any existing earlier examples of this.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	FAIR	Historical Value	5
	Exterior	GOOD, but needs cleaning and painting	Architectural Value	9

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

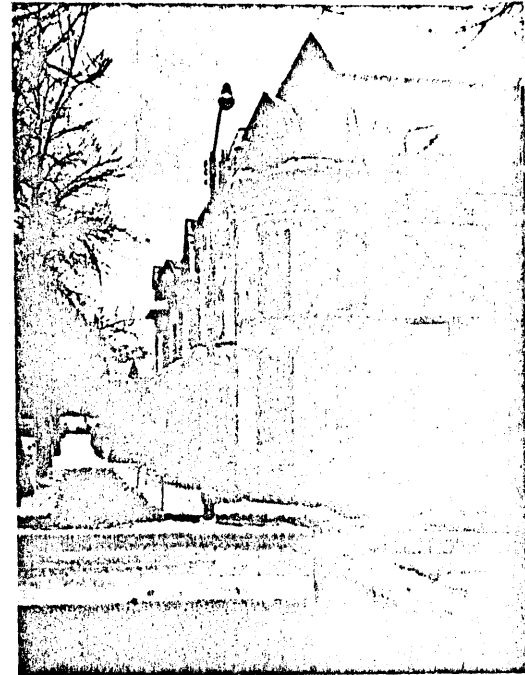
Helena Independent, December 18, 1884
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 210-216 No. Ewing, 229 E. 6th
Original Owner W. A. Chessman
Original Use Apartments
Present Owner Catholic Charities
Present Use "Halfway House"
Wall Construction Brick
No. of Stories 2½

Name Chessman Flats or New Horizon
Date or Period 1892
Style None
Architect
Builder

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description



This building has no particular historical significance other than it was built and owned by W. A. Chessman, one of the most prominent men in the territory of Montana.

This is also a good example of early Montana residential architecture. The bay windows, the circular corner tower and decorated brick frieze along with the varied dormers and wood porches, provide a pleasing facade. This is a good example of a tasteful restoration of an old building that was considered practically worthless a few years ago. This should serve as a model for other owners to upgrade property that is practically written off and bring it back to a useful, profitable, taxpaying unit while maintaining the architectural flavor of the original structure.

Present Physical Condition: Interior
Exterior

Historical Value
Architectural Value

8

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

"From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch", Vol. II
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

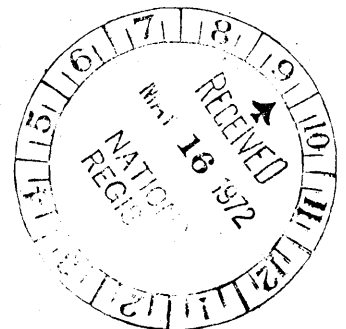
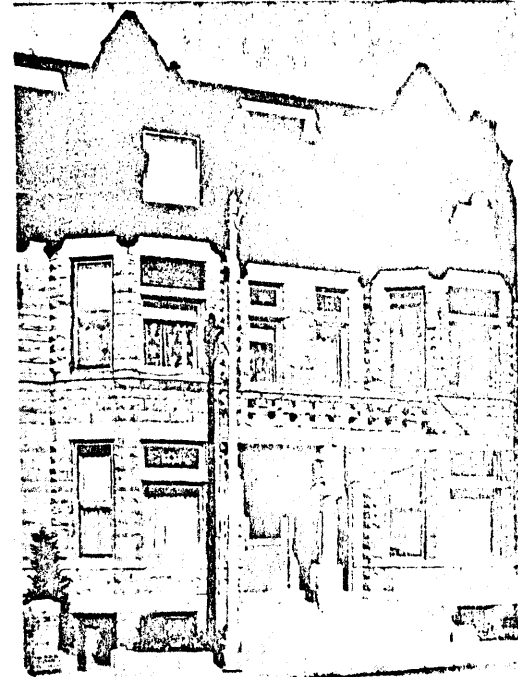
Street No. 310 Fifth Avenue
Original Owner Childs Family
Original Use Apartments
Present Owner Lloyd R. Roach
Present Use Apartments
Wall Construction Brick and Stone
No. of Stories 2 $\frac{1}{2}$

Name Mrs. W. C. Childs Flat
Date or Period 1887
Style None
Architect
Builder

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

This building has slight historical significance in that the Childs family were the original builders and owners.

This apartment is a good architectural example because they had an unusual concern about the appearance of a rental property. The twin towers, the stained glass, the bay windows, the ornamental stone, the decorated cornice and the mansard roof all indicate an attempt to provide a better quality apartment.



Present Physical Condition: Interior
Exterior FAIR

Historical Value
Architectural Value

8

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

"City of Helena", by W. O. Lyman

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

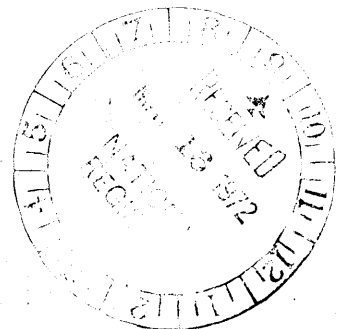
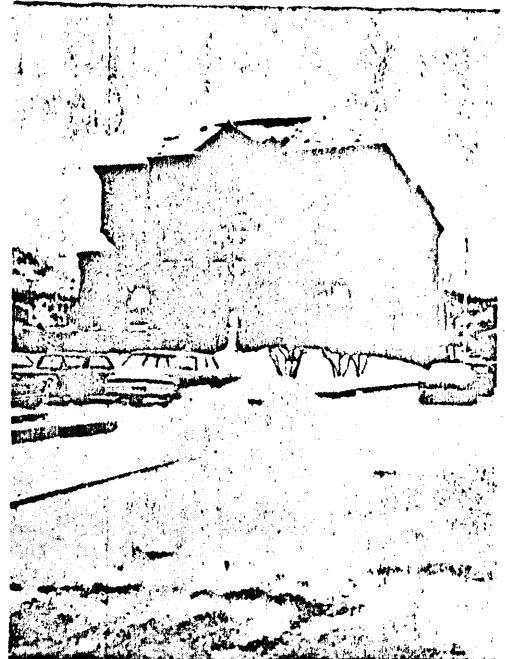
Street No.	Court House - Entire Block
Original Owner	Lewis & Clark County
Original Use	Court House & State Capitol
Present Owner	Lewis & Clark County
Present Use	Court House
Wall Construction	Brick & Stone
No. of Stories	3

Name	L & C County Court House
Date or Period	1887
Style	Richardson Romanesque
Architect	Hodgeson, Wallingford & Stem
Builder	Ryan and Brunton

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description

This building probably has the most historic significance and is also one of the best examples of the architectures of that period. The influence of H. H. Richardson is evident in the massive granite stonework. The two-color stone spandrel, a Richardsonian feature is evident here as on the Securities Building. The exquisitely carved stone capitals and the bases for the round Romanesque arches at the spring line show the influence of Louis Sullivan. The gray granite is no doubt of local origin and the brown sandstone is that same Bayfield brownstone that became the mark of Fifth Avenue mansions. The brownstone detail around the windows is as fine as that of Richardson on the famous Crane Library in Massachusetts. The workmanship in the laying of the granite is of especially good quality.

This building was the scene of the enactment of much of Montana's history, because it was the Territorial Capitol and later the State Capitol building until the present capitol building was completed about 1902. The Legislature met here in 1889. The administrative offices and the Supreme Court were also housed here. There is no question about retaining this building as a historic landmark in Helena.



Present Physical Conditions:	Interior	FAIR	Historical Value	<u>10</u>
	Exterior	FAIR	Architectural Value	<u>10</u>

Published Sources, Records, Etc.

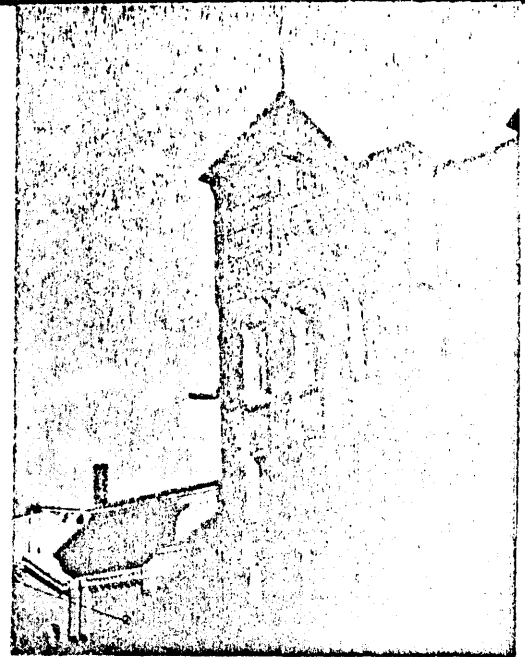
From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, vol. 1
Helena Illustrated, 1890

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY DATA SHEET
CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA
JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS

Street No. 400 Blk, W. Last Chance Glch.
Original Owner Helena Brewery
Original Use Brewery
Present Owner Helena Unlimited
Present Use Summer Theatre
Wall Construction Brick
No. of Stories 4

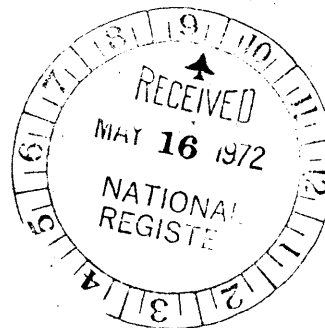
Name Brewery Theatre
Date or Period South end prior to 1890
Style None
Architect
Builder

Notable Features, Historical Significance,
and Description



This building is not of historic or architectural importance.

Its present use as a theatre for quality plays and musicals imparts considerable significance to the building. The hodge-podge of roofs and brick walls somehow manages to form an interesting composition. This building would undoubtedly require an enormous amount of work to bring it up to code from both a structural and life-safety standpoint. Nevertheless, a certain aura has developed in connection with this building and the theatre that probably cannot be recreated in any other place, and for that reason it is imperative that it be restored and made into a safe and usable building.



Present Physical Condition:	Interior	POOR	Historical Value	<u>8</u>
	Exterior	POOR	Architectural Value	<u>2</u>

Published Sources, Records, Etc.
Lewis & Clark County Assessor

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian | ☐ 16th Century | ☐ 18th Century | ☒ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century | ☐ 17th Century | ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1860's - 1900

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On July 14, 1864, the "Four Georgians" in a last chance effort, discovered gold in what is now an alley just north of Wall Street. Their strike touched off a boom era of optimism and vigorous growth. In less than 30 years, Helena had become the "Queen City of the West" and the Montana State Capitol. One can still trace her evolution along her main street, Last Chance Gulch. Changing from a narrow road of log and stone buildings with mining camp atmosphere at its southern end, it progresses north through a district of small masonry commercial buildings of the 1870's and 1880's. It culminates downtown among the remaining large business blocks of the late 1880's and 1890's, built in the then predominant neo-Romanesque of Henry H. Richardson and the architects of the Chicago School. With its massive stonework and round arched openings, Richardsonian Romanesque is considered to be the first major architectural style indigenous to America. The many excellent examples in downtown Helena are in fair condition and reasonably compatible surroundings. This is in a large part due to the panic of 1893 which forced closure of the silver mines and brought business building to a virtual halt. Few major downtown buildings were erected after that date.

In more prosperous cities, the business districts have run the gamut of various architectural styles and have achieved a tiresome tendency toward alikeness, without much distinctive city character. Helena is now in a position to capitalize on the unique domination of a single period of architecture and to preserve and highlight her remaining good buildings in a well governed and compatible framework of newer construction.

Apart from a purely architectural significance, many buildings in this area have played important historic roles. The history of Helena is in essence the history of Montana. Men who developed the state - Samuel Hauser, Colonel Broadwater, A.M. Holter, Wilbur F. Sanders, Thomas C. Power, Henry Sieben, Conrad Kohrs, Thomas Cruse, C.W. Cannon, and many others - were residents and transacted their business here. The exciting struggle to keep the capitol in Helena, the early day political maneuvering, and the establishment of substantial fortunes, are Helena's history.

The Electric and Power Blocks, the Helena Athletic Association and Auerbach Buildings, the Merchants Hotel (Monticello Apartments), and the Lewis & Clark County Court House, contain the echoes of early state and territorial legislative sessions. The scene of these and the social and business activities of everyday Helena in its mining boom era, should be preserved where at all possible.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Helena Architectural Survey of the Urban Renewal Area, City of Helena, Montana
Jacobson and Shope, Architects, Helena, Montana

Historic Helena, Home Building and Loan Association, Thurber's Printing Company.
Helena, Montana, 1964

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
NW	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NE	46°	35'	33"	112°	02'	49"			
SE	46°	34'	58"	112°	01'	57"			
SW	46°	34'	58"	112°	02'	49"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 200 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: HERBERT L. JACOBSON / NORMAN GUYAZ

ORGANIZATION: JACOBSON AND SHOPE, ARCHITECTS/ Montana Fish & Game Dept. DATE: 11-24-71

STREET AND NUMBER: #6 LaLonde Building / Sam W. Mitchell Bldg.

CITY OR TOWN: Helena STATE: Montana 59601 CODE: 30

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

Name: Miss Woodgess

Title: Chief, Recreation & Park Division - Mont Fish & Game Dept.
Date: 12-21-71

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/2/72

ATTEST: William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register

Date: 6-1-72

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Montana	
COUNTY Lewis & Clark	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 2	1972

(Number all entries)

10. Geographical Data

Boundary description

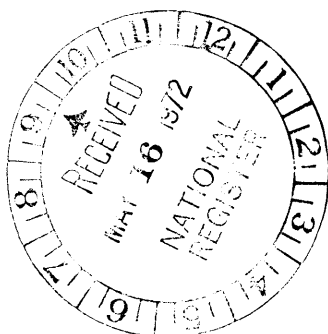
The Helena Historic District is composed of the following two parts:

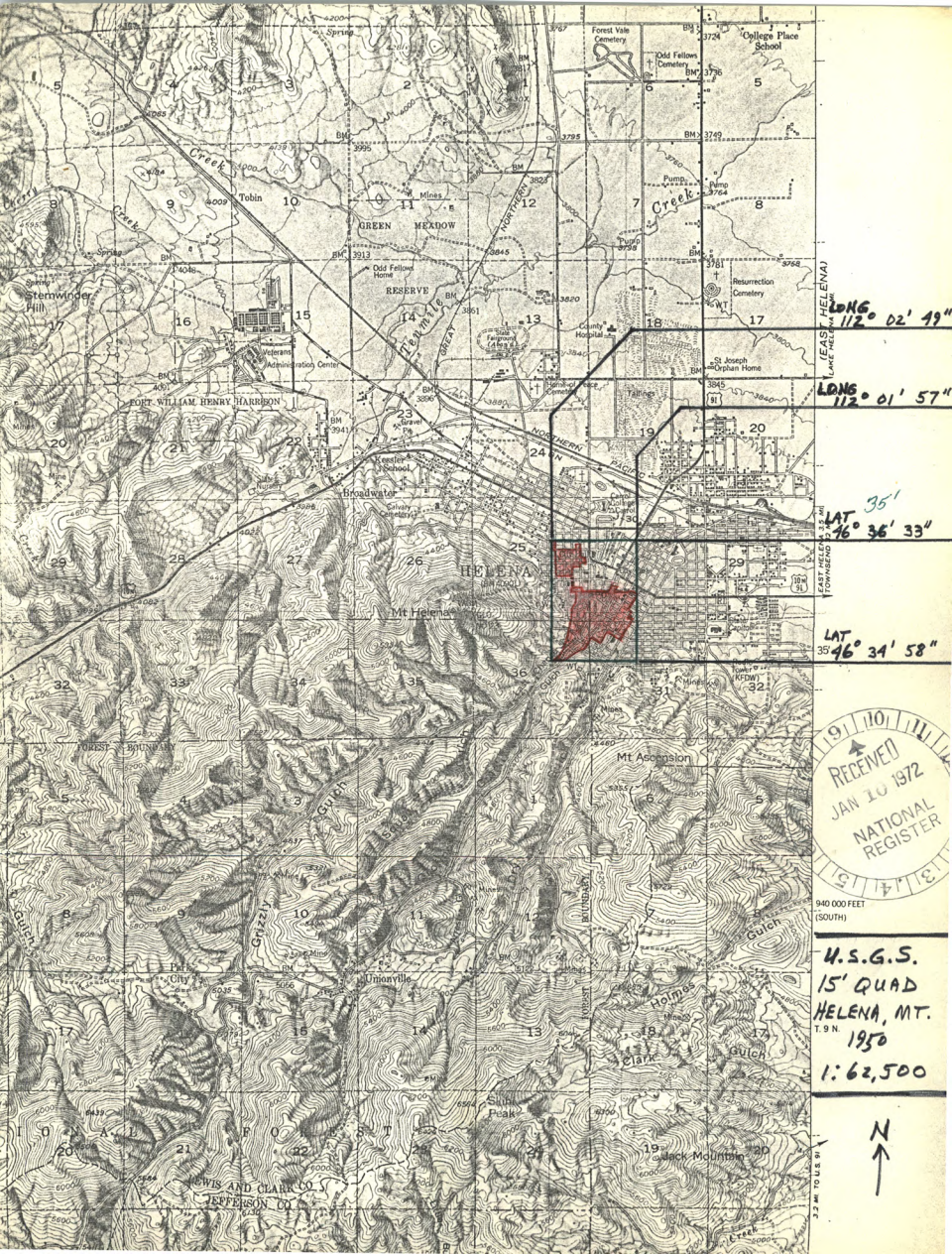
(1) Downtown

Beginning at the southwest corner, the boundary runs north-east just west of West Main, then north on Howie Street, then west on Lawrence, north on Madison, east on first alley, south on Dearborn, east on Lawrence, northeast on Last Chance Gulch, east on first alley, southwest on Jackson, east on Lawrence, southeast through parking lot on north side of St. Helena Cathedral, southwest on Ewing, southeast on 7th, southwest on first alley, southeast on 6th, southwest on Rodney, northwest on first alley after Broadway to Warren, southwest on Warren, northwest on Miller, southwest on Water, then continuing southwest on Cliff to behind the brewery, thence west to starting point.

(2) West Residential

Beginning at corner of Hauser and Monroe, the boundary runs south on Monroe, east on Stuart, north on first alley past Madison, east cutting across block, south on Dearborn, east on Flowerree, south on first alley, west on Gilbert, south on Dearborn, west on first alley to Madison, south on Madison to first alley past Power, west on alley to Monroe, north on Monroe, west on Stuart to alley, north on alley, east on Hauser to starting point.



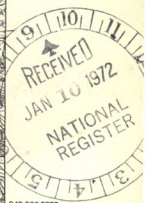


LONG. 112° 02' 49"

LONG 112° 01' 57"

35'
LAT. 46° 36' 33"

LAT $35^{\circ} 46' 34'' 58''$



940 000 FEET
(SOUTH)

U.S.G.S.
15' QUAD
HELENA, MT.
T. 9 N.
1950
1:62,500



Form 10-301
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 2	1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Helena Historic District			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Last Chance Gulch			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Boundaries as marked on map			
CITY OR TOWN: Helena			
STATE:	Montana	59601	CODE 30
COUNTY:	Lewis and Clark		CODE 049
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U. S. G. S. Helena, Montana quadrangle			
SCALE: 15 minute series 1: 62,500			
DATE: 1950			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

